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Date: 1/2/02 9:20pm **Subject:** The Merrimac Coup

The Merrimac Coup was described in a recent Bridge column in the Los Angeles Times. Basically designed as a way to prevent escape, the US Navy sunk one of their ships, the Merrimac, in a Spanish harbor, preventing Spanish ships from leaving.

The Merrimac telephone exchange was located in Chicago on the near North Side around Central and North Avenues. The White Cap Company, where my father was employed, had a main telephone number of ME-7-2000, before 3 digit area codes, digital ESS systems, and other telecommunications advancements were implemented.

The White Cap Company was acquired by Continental Can years ago, leaving most of the White Family management in place, providing Continental board member privileges to Robert White, president of White Cap. Stock & cash payments to the family may have been invested with others in land & other assets. I believe the Irish-American origin White family has been honored in the LA Times and parent Chicago Tribune Corporation via the Sports pages and others in coded messages for years.

Most recently, with the changing of the Irish football coaching guard at Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, and the preceding resume fiasco with Notre Dame's one week coach (former San Diego assistant coach), the Tribune / Times editors have been working overtime on creative writing endeavours. The coded messages in the Bridge column may provide a strategy for family / corporate assets interested in repositioning themselves. "Sinking" the Merrimac may be a quasi-governmental or PAC investment code, defining a "scuttle" of a disposable piece of the fleet in order to keep opposing forces at or in their "bay", preventing those opposing forces from attacking other areas.

The Irish roots of Microsoft's family and leader, Bill Gates, may also be related to the issues presented in this and previous communications.